

Weekly Views

March 23, 2012

Due to the overwhelming generosity of staff, the DOC family was able to raise over \$9000 in relief funds for those most devastated by storms in Southern Indiana earlier this month. Commissioner Lemmon was pleased to distribute checks this week to staff whose homes had been destroyed in the tornado. They were grateful to receive the assistance, and deeply moved by the thoughtfulness of their coworkers.

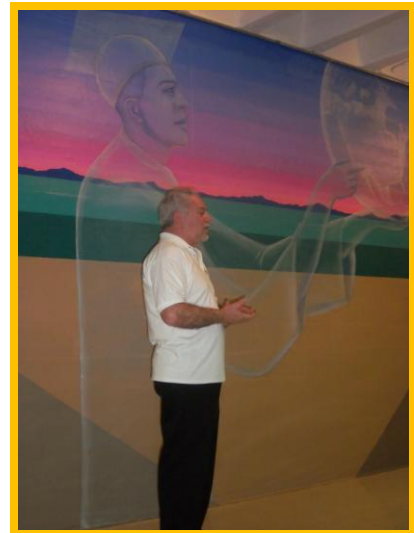
Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) hosted the first in a series of IDOC Public Information Officer Round Table Meetings, discussing social media and other facets of media coverage. Susan Dinkel and Mandi Scott of Terre Haute's WTHI TV exchanged ideas and shared their expertise with the group.

The Indiana Women's Prison is proud to announce, two offender ICAN dog handlers graduated from the 3600 hour U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program for Animal Trainer. The offenders worked very hard to achieve this goal. The facility congratulates both offenders on their accomplishment.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted an Open House for the unveiling of a 47 x 11 foot mural titled "Go and Make your Mark on the World". The mural was painted by students with the guidance of the nationally renowned muralist, painter and sculptor Emanuel Martinez for The Emanuel Project. The project's history began in January 2011 for juvenile detention facilities across the nation. The mural in Logansport marks the completion of the 17th mural painted in 12 juvenile detention centers in Georgia, Tennessee, Indiana, Kentucky, Colorado and Texas. Several dignitaries were at the unveiling included State Representatives, Senators, local Principals, School Board members, the media as well as high ranking staff members from the Department. (see photo right of Emanuel Martinez)

A PLUS Commencement Ceremony was held for 114 graduates at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Opening remarks were given by Superintendent Stanley Knight followed by an address from the Keynote Speaker David Liebel, Deputy Director of Religious & Volunteer Services. Testimonials from graduates, presentation of certificates and recognition of program volunteers concluded the ceremony, coordinated by Case Manager K. Kumaran.

Pendleton Correctional Facility American Legion Post #608 conducted a program that was attended by Pendleton administrative staff, offender members of the American Legion Organization, Indiana American Legion officials, and other outside guests from the community. During the event a "MIA/POW Missing Man Table" ceremony was conducted, and a donation of \$250 was presented by Post #608 to the family of University of North Carolina and Muncie Central High School graduate and track athlete Vanneisha Ivy in support of her quest to compete in the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. Indiana Legion Commander Michael Miller also presented Post #608 with its permanent charter and paperwork and those in attendance recognized and celebrated the 93rd anniversary of the American Legion Organization.



The Indiana State Prison's PLUS program conducted their first social event of the year. The PLUS Social Committee hosted the event that included a cookout and various tournament games on the PLUS unit. In keeping with the five core values of the program (Compassion, Tolerance, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility) and promoting pro-social behavior, the participants provided meals for all the men on X-row and 91 non-PLUS participants as a gesture of goodwill and expressing social altruism. It also provided an opportunity for the PLUS offenders to interact with volunteers and show potential volunteers what the program is about.

Staff and offenders contributed to Westville Correctional Facility's effort in the Hoosier Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. The facility collected approximately 1000 items which were donated to the local Baptist Church and Supplemental Food Pantry. A huge thanks to the facility was expressed by local recipients of the donated goods.

The Indiana Women's Prison PLUS Program donated \$500 to the Henryville Disaster Relief Fund. The offenders said they are glad to help with the recovery efforts.

Nikki Simpson and Regina Engle of the March of Dimes met with Wabash Valley staff, thanking Superintendent Dick Brown for PLUS quilts made to help comfort babies at Terre Haute area hospitals. Team WVCF will again take part in the local walk to benefit the March of Dimes on April 28th

The Putnamville Correctional Facility raised \$2010 for victims of the Henryville tornado. The facility's Employee Recognition Committee hosted a two-day bake sale, and the Ivy Tech Culinary Arts class donated proceeds from a two-day staff luncheon to raise the money. A donation was also received from the Facility's Community Service Fund. Superintendent Stanley Knight extends his appreciation and thanks to all who diligently worked and generously donated to make each event a success.